

Message Text

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ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03
SY-05 MCT-01 IO-13 /062 W
-----059761 271716Z /43

P 271410Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5240
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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ROME FOR FAA (ATTN: T.I. BELL); BRUSSELS FOR FAA
STATE PASS TO FAA (ACS-400)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, MO
SUBJ: FAA SECURITY VISIT, CASABLANCA

1. OBSERVATION ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS OF TWA AND ROYAL AIR
MAROC SECURITY PROCEDURES AND PASSENGER SCREENING BASICALLY
SATISFACTORY. HAND SEARCH OF PERSONS AND CARRY-ON BAGGAGE
APPEARED THOROUGH AND IN FACT CHECKED AND CARRY-ON BAGGAGE
WERE SUBJECT TO SEARCH BY CUSTOMS PERSONNEL PRIOR TO SCREENING
POINT SEARCH BY NATIONAL POLICE. BODY SEARCH PERFORMED
IN SCREENED BOOTH AND REPORTEDLY CONDUCTED IN THOROUGH
MANNER, ALTHOUGH IN THEIR DEPARTURE FOR ROME BELL &
PUGLISI FOUND PHYSICAL SEARCH OF PERSONS AND CARRY-ON WAS
NOT THOROUGH. DURING RAM OBSERVATION SEVERAL PERSONS WERE
ESCORTED AROUND THE SCREENING AREA. INQUIRY DISCLOSED
PRACTICE AT CASABLANCA IS TO PROVIDE SPECIAL SCREENING
FOR VIPS AND DIPLOMATS IN VIP LOUNGE ADJOINING NORMAL
PASSENGER SECURE HOLD AREA. STATION MANAGERS ADVISED OF ABOVE.
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2. RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED BY AUG 76 FAA TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE TEAM AFFECTING BASIC SECURITY REQUIREMENTS HAVE
BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

3. ALL ICAO SECURITY REQUIREMENTS BEING MET EXCEPT NO
FORMAL AIRPORT SECURITY COMMITTEE (ASC) HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED.

AIRLINE OPERATING COMMITTEE SERVES THIS FUNCTION WITH TWA SERVING AS SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE. ASSISTANT TO AIRPORT DIRECTOR (TSI GRADUATE) PARTICIPATES ON THIS COMMITTEE. CHAIRED BY AIR FRANCE. FORMAL ASC ESTABLISHMENT PENDING APPROVAL BY MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT. ICAO RECOMMENDATIONS ALSO BEING COMPLIED WITH, EXCEPT CONSISTENT ENFORCEMENT OF NEW IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND PERIMETER SECURITY OF AIRPORT.

4. DISCUSSIONS WERE CONDUCTED WITH AHMED EL BIAZ, CHIEF OF AIRPORTS FOR SOUTHERN REGION OF MOROCCO, INCLUDING CASA-BLANCA AIRPORT IN COMPANY OF COMMERCIAL ATTACHE, AMCONGEN, CONCERNING ABOVE OBSERVATIONS. EL BIAZ ACKNOWLEDGED THAT STRENGTHENED MEASURES ARE NECESSARY WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE NATIONAL POLICE (MINISTRY OF INTERIOR) AND THE GENDARMERIE (MIN OF DEFENSE) BOTH HAVING SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES AT AIRPORT.

5. COMPLETE REVIEW OF ABOVE WAS HELD AT RABAT WITH ABDELJAWAD DAOUDI, CHIEF OF CIVIL AERONAUTICS, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT IN COMPANY OF TWO OFFICERS FROM ECONOMIC SECTION, AMEMBASSY RABAT. POSITIVE INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED IN FAA'S OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS. IN ADDITION, BELL AND PUGLISI EXPLAINED TO DAOUDI THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FAA'S INTEREST AND SPECIAL CONCERN FOR PROVIDING TECHNICAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN AIRPORTS, AND THE LIST OF QUOTE DANGEROUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIRPORTS UNQUOTE AS CITED IN THE RIBICOFF BILL (REF STATE 020628). DAOUDI WAS NOT AWARE AS YET OF CASABLANCA BEING MENTIONED AT SENATE HEARINGS BY SECRETARY ADAMS. FOLLOWING VISIT WITH DAOUDI, BELL AND PUGLISI DISCUSSED RESULTS OF VISIT WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM.

6. FAA CONCLUSION IS THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN SECURITY POSTURE AT CASABLANCA AIRPORT. A MUTUALLY COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE WAS IN EVIDENCE BY ALL MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. FAA RECOMMENDED:
1) EARLY FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF ASC; 2) SELECTION OF KEY AIRPORT SECURITY AND POLICY OFFICIALS OF BOTH TANGIER AND CASABLANCA AIRPORTS TO ATTEND TSI; AND
3) A REQUEST FOR FAA TO REVIEW SECURITY PLANS FOR NEW TERMINAL AT CASABLANCA/NOUASSEUR TO BE COMPLETED DURING 1979. AMEMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, VISITS, CONSULTANTS, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CASABL00115
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780041-0213
Format: TEL
From: CASABLANCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780116/aaaaamrs.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 20b570df-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION FAA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3703422
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAA SECURITY VISIT, CASABLANCA
TAGS: EAIR, MO, US, FAA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/20b570df-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014